Political solution proposed by ULFA

378. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some top leaders of ULFA have proposed recently for political solution of their cause;

(b) if so, what is the reaction of the Government; and

(c) what new steps have been taken by Government to solve this vexed problem of Assam?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of the (a) above.

(c) The Government has extended an invitation to all those who have strayed from the path of peace and togetherness to give up violence and come forward for talks within the frame work of the Indian Constitution. This applies in equal measure to the United Liberation Front of Asom (ULFA). However, the ULFA has not responded to the offer of the Central Government for peace talks. So far, only Bodo Liberation Tiger (BLT) in Assam has come forward for peace talks.

News-item 'CISF ill-equipped to handle airport security'

379. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been invited to the news-item "CISF ill-equipped to handle airport security" appearing in the Times of India dated 18th September, 2001.

(b) the reasons for not supplying full equipments to the Central Industrial Security Force for the protection of airport at Bangalore;

(c) whether such type of poor security arrangements are also existing in other airports, if so, the details thereof; and